

RECORDING OF PROCEEDINGS

Wyoming Board of Agriculture
May 16, 2007
Conference Call

Members Present: Jack Corson, President
Gene Hardy, Vice President
Juan Reyes
Jim Mickelson
Joe Thomas
Dave Graham
Patrick Zimmerer
Dalín Winters
David Largent
John Etchepare, Director, WY Dept. of Agriculture

Members Absent: Emily Horton
Frank Galey, Dean, UW College of Agriculture
Ryan Lance, Governor Freudenthal's Office

WDA Staff Present: Muff Parker, Recording Secretary
Slade Franklin

Guests: Doug Vickery
Gail Mahnke

Niobrara County Weed & Pest Declared Addition

Gail explained the reason for the resolution adding Douglas Fir Tussock Moth to their declared list and asked the members to approve. This will allow the district to cost share with Lusk. Slade also explained this is all part of the Early Detection Rapid Response program where a new and invasive weed or pest can be eradicated quickly to avoid its spread. **Jim Mickelson made a motion to sign the resolution as presented by the Niobrara County Weed and Pest District to add the Douglas Fir Tussock Moth *Orgyia pseudotsugata* to their declared list. The motion was seconded by Joe Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.** Slade will mail the original to Jack Corson for signature.

Lower Wind River Conservation District Extension

Gene Hardy made a motion to extend it until December 31, 2007. The motion was seconded by Jim Mickelson. The members discussed the reason for the extension. **Jim amended his motion to allow the extension until December 31, 2008 without allowing another extension. The amended motion was seconded by Joe Thomas. Motion carried unanimously.**

Issues

Muff briefed the members on the status of the 2007 Living Legacy Program, noting the plaques received last year had been delivered to the concrete company back in February, but were waiting for the additional ordered plaques to be complete before casting them. According to the engraver, they should be finished this week and hopefully we can put a rush on the concrete and deliver of them to State Fair Park so the inmates can place them. Jim Mickelson is still working

on sponsors. Some of the members noted they had not received their receipt from last years' donation and Muff agreed to follow-up.

Joe Thomas updated the members on the visit to his place from USFWS. He said nothing had changed and it appears the state will have to have a management plan in place before the wolf de-listing can proceed. He said it also looks like the boundary line will be the highway. They are experiencing the worst year yet for wolves and bears, as they have already killed 9. John feels the state needs to have a plan that includes a fund to pay for losses. This would be different than the state management plan, and would address several issues facing livestock owner losses on private, federal and state land. He would like to have the members visit with folks in their respective areas to get a feel for their thoughts and get back with him. He reiterated this is just a possible solution and in the thinking stages at this point.

John said he was not able to attend the Wildlife Summit, but in visiting with staff that did, he indicated it went well. John is in Laramie today attending the invitation only WLCI meeting. Jason Fearneyhough, Leanne Stevenson and Matt Hoobler are all speakers. This group will do an overview of what science can be used in development for the field. The WLCI is in addition to local sage grouse working groups. Those trying to manage the habitat don't always agree with those trying to manage the sage grouse.

Joe asked if there was any more information regarding the aborted calf found on a neighbor's ranch last week. John said it did involve brucellosis but didn't have more details. He said the livestock board is meeting today and perhaps he could get a hold of Jim Schwartz for details.

Approval of minutes

Jim Mickelson found a typographical error on page 4, second to the last line of the April 9 – 10 minutes. He said it should read met not net. **Jim Mickelson made a motion to approve the April 9 – 10, April 18, and May 2 minutes with the correction noted above. The motion was seconded by Dave Graham. Motion carried unanimously.**

Jim Mickelson made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Gene Hardy. Motion carried unanimously.

There being no additional business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Corson, President

Date